vities which jacked up edible oil prices to high levels; and

(d) if so, what is Government's reaction thereto and what steps are proposed to be taken in the matter to ensure availability of vanaspati oil to consumers at reasonable prices?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI H. K. L. BHAGAT): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Increase in the input cost including prices of edible oils which are important raw materials for vanaspati.

(c) Indian Vanaspati Producers Association submitted that frequent changes in the edible oil policy gave rise to uncertainties and suggested for a stable policy of oil allocation.

(d) Allocation of imported oils to vanaspati industry is changed, depending upon the availability of indigenous oils and their prices.

Some of the measures taken by Government to ensure availability of vanaspati oils to consumers are:—

(i) Percentage of imported oil allocated to the Vanaspati Indusry has been progressively raised from 10 per cent in December, 1986 to 60 per cent in July, 1987.

(ii) Allotment of imported oil upto two weeks' requirements of each unit as reserve stock for use in case of temporary disruption of supplies of imported oil.

(iii) State Trading Corporation has been advised to plan for imports and movement of imported oil continuously at regular intervals in order to have a comfortable stock position at the STC's depots throughout the country.

(iv) State Governments/Union Territories have been advised to exempt vanaspati industry from the purview of power cut/load shedding etc.

12.00 NOON

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

Multi-state Cooperative Societies (Registration, Membership, Direction and Management, Settlement of Disputes, Appeal and Revision) Amendment Rules, 1987.

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI G. S. DHILLON): Madam, I beg to lay on the Table, under sub-section (3) of section 109 of the Multi-State Cooperative Societies Act, 1984, a copy (in English and Hindi) of the Ministry of Agriculture (Department of Agriculture and Cooperation) Notification G.S.R. No. 566(E), dated the 12th June, 1987, publishing the Multi-State Cooperative Societies (Registration, Membership, Direction and Management, Settlement of Disputes, Appeal and Revision) Amendment Rules, 1987. [Placed in Library. *See* No. LT-4578/87].

I. Bureau of Indian Standards Notifications.

II. Ministry of Food and Civil Supplies (Department of Civil Supplies) Notifications.

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI H. K. L. BHAGAT): Madam, I beg to lay on the Table:—

I. A copy (in English and Hindi) of the Bureau of Indian Standards Notification S.O. No. 464(E), dated the 12th May, 1987, constituting an Executive Committee of the Bureau of Indian Standards. [Placed in Library. *See* No. LT-4584/87]

II. A copy (in English and Hindi) of the Bureau of Indian Standards Notification G.S.R. No. 536(E),